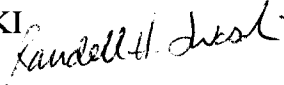


Memorandum

*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

To: DISTRICT DIRECTORS
PROJECT MANAGERS
PROJECT ENGINEERS
RESIDENT ENGINEERS
MAINTENANCE ENGINEERS
DISTRICT MATERIALS ENGINEERS

Date: April 20, 2004

From: RANDELL H. IWASAKI
Deputy Director 
Maintenance and Operations

J. MIKE LEONARDO
Acting Chief Engineer 

Subject: Transmittal of Pavement Standards Team (PST) Pavement Advisory for Dowel Bar Retrofit Projects

The attached PST Pavement Advisory for Dowel Bar Retrofit Projects was written in response to the occurrence of premature failures of dowel bar retrofit projects. The Advisory recommends procedures that are to be followed for dowel bar retrofit projects that currently are in construction, projects that are scheduled to Ready to List (RTL) in fiscal year (FY) 2003/04 and FY 2004/05, and projects either scheduled to RTL after FY 2004/05 or not currently programmed.

As Deputy Director for Maintenance and Operations and Acting Chief Engineer and in our roles as the sponsors of the Pavement Program Steering Committee, we support the guidance provided in this Pavement Advisory and emphasize that this Advisory affects only dowel bar retrofit projects.

Please distribute the Advisory to all staff involved with dowel bar retrofit projects.

At this time, it is unknown what is causing the dowel bar retrofit failures to occur. A study is being conducted at various project locations to investigate causes of the premature failures and determine strategies for improvement.

For further information about dowel bar retrofits, please refer to the California Department of Transportation's Pavement website under Technical Guidance at the following address:

<<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/oppd/pavement/guidance/dowel-bar-guidelines.pdf>>

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Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Susan Massey, Chief of the Office of Roadway Rehabilitation in the Division of Maintenance, at (916) 654-4792; Tom Pyle, Chief of the Office of Rigid Pavement Materials and Structural Concrete in the Division of Engineering Services' Materials Engineering and Testing Services, at (916) 227-7281; or William K. Farnbach, Chief of the Office of Pavement Design in the Division of Design, at (916) 227-7324.

Attachment

c: Pavement Program Steering Committee
 Michael P. Evans, Division of Maintenance
 Tim Craggs, Division of Design
 Philip J. Stolarski, Division of Engineering Services
 Susan Massey, Division of Maintenance
 Pavement Standards Team